

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE HEALTH POLICY COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 693 LEGISLATION TO CREATE THE MIHEALTH MARKETPLACE PREPARED BY TRINITY HEALTH

Trinity Health – one of the ten largest health systems in the country, and the only national health system headquartered in Michigan – appreciates the opportunity to express support for Senate Bill 693. On behalf of our 12 hospitals and 29,000 Michigan associates, we applaud this Committee for the continued time it has spent deliberating this very important topic.

With a belief that health care is a human right and that expanding access to it should be a moral and practical imperative of our industry, Trinity Health has long advocated that expanding access to health insurance coverage is an essential element of health care transformation. With robust transparency around price, quality, provider networks, and benefit design, state-based health insurance exchanges will expand access and facilitate consumer engagement.

Nationally, Trinity Health is pleased to be a leading provider voice educating stakeholders in the health insurance exchange policy space. We've developed several resources for policy-makers including the card before you today. In Michigan, you might recall we hosted a legislative luncheon, last October, with Jon Kingsdale, former Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Connector to understand lessons learned from an early adopter. Later, we presented to this Committee and continue to share emerging policy resources.

We are supportive of state-based exchange models and strongly believe states should be responsible for plan management and consumer outreach functions. We are supportive of a quasi-public governance model and strongly believe the board should include an individual representing health care providers, and another representing newly insured consumers. Finally, we are supportive of the Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation assuming responsibility for certifying qualified health plans and strongly believe benefit requirements should encourage the election of high-value providers.

Health insurance exchanges provide us the opportunity to transform our health care marketplace to one that is organized around high-value health care. Trinity Health appreciates your willingness to work with health care providers, insurers, and consumers to embrace this opportunity and develop a plan that is not dictated by the federal government, but instead unique to Michigan.

Should you have any questions about this support, please contact Tina Weatherwax Grant, VP, Public Policy & State Advocacy.

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Michigan Ministry Organizations

Chelsea Community Hospital Nancy Graebner President and CEO

Mercy Health Partners Roger Spoelman President and CEO

Mercy Hospital – Cadillac John L. McLeod President and CEO

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St Joseph Mercy Port Huron Rebekah Smith Interim President and CEO

St. Mary Mercy Hospital David Spivey President and CEO

Trinity Senior Living Communities Ken Robbins Chief Executive Officer

Trinity Home Health Services Grace McCauley Chief Executive Officer



We serve together in Trinity Health, in the spirit of the Gospel, to heal body, mind and spirit to improve the health of our communities and to steward the resources entrusted to us.

Respect - Social Justice - Compassion - Care of the Poor and Undersalved - Excellence